DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Administration
Office 614-644-8901

April 2, 2020

JOANN Fabrics and Craft Stores
5555 Darrow Road
Hudson, OH 44236

Via Email – customer.service@joann.com
sarah.smith@joann.com
tina.curry@joann.com

Re: Ohio Department of Health Non-Essential Business Operations Order
Of March 22, 2020

Dear JOANN Fabrics and Craft Stores,

It has come to the attention of the Ohio Attorney General's Office that JOANN Fabrics is continuing to operate retail stores in Ohio during the COVID-19 outbreak. The Director of the Ohio Department of Health issued an order (attached) on March 22, 2020 and a subsequent order on April 2, 2020 (attached) regarding business operations in Ohio. In relevant part, the orders state that non-essential business should not operate. The Director provided additional guidance as to specific types of business that meet the definition of "essential."

It does not appear that JOANN Fabrics meets the criteria outlined in the Director's orders. On behalf of the Department of Health, you are ordered to immediately cease and desist operations. If you do not immediately comply with the orders, the Attorney General's Office may take all appropriate measures. If you believe that your business meets the specific terms and definitions contained in Director Acton's order, please clarify the basis for your assertion within 24 hours. Note that a violation of a director's orders during a pandemic may be punished criminally as second-degree misdemeanor or enforced by civil injunction pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3701.352 and RC 3701.99(C).

Our country is facing unprecedented challenges now and we want to ensure that you are aware of the obligations placed on you by the Director's order. Please contact me by email at jonathan.fulkerson@ohioattorneygeneral.gov with your reply as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jonathan Fulkerson

Deputy Attorney General

Enc. Director's Order, March 22, 2020 & April 2, 2020